

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Masahiro HATAKEYAMA et al.**

Serial No.: **Not yet assigned**

(§371 of international application No. PCT/JP03/04910)

Filed: **October 15, 2004**

For: **SAMPLE SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD**

Attorney Docket No.: **042879**

Customer Number: **38834**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 15, 2004

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.